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NND 740062
NARS, Date 7/8/93

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DOD Dir.
JAN 11 1952

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Telephone conversation between General Wilbur and Colonel Ryan,
14, December 1944.

W: A statement, a statement in the clear of these things that you told me last night.

R: Alright sir.

W: Want to be sure about it, I'm going to put it on in the clear. The Assistant Secretary of War, these are things you read to me last night, you see.

R: That you want to be, that he wanted to be answers on, sir.

W: Right.

R: Alright, sir.

W: Now the first part are our understanding of the wording of the understanding. The Assistant Secretary of War has agreed with the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice as follows:

When the representative of the Commanding General, Western Defense Command delivers an individual exclusion order to a person who has previously been granted leave clearance, by War Relocation Authority, there will be inserted with and attached to the individual exclusion order a statement that will read as follows:

"This exclusion order is issued to you pending a review by the Commanding General, Western Defense Command. You will be advised in writing of any change in this exclusion order as a result of the review. In addition to the prompt review of your case you can if you so desire apply for a hearing before a Army Hearing Board."

R: That's not exactly the way, sir, that they had it

W: That's the way we're-----

R: Its essentially the same.

W: That's the way we are interrupting it, and that's the way we'd like to propose it to them.

R: Alright sir.

W: 2. It is understood that the review of each case, by the Western Defense Command, will include a thorough consideration of existing data and information found in the proceedings of the War Relocation Authority hearings. This hearing data is available at Relocation Centers. It is desired that the review of all such cases shall be completed in 20 days if possible.

Now that's the end of that understanding.

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- R: That's right, yes sir.
- W: We feel here that we will do the very best we can. It is doubtful if the preliminarys, the assembly of data and the actual consideration of the hearing data, as well as all the other action can be completed within 20 days.
- R: Yes, sir. I doubt it too.
- W: The next understanding. It is understood that the above provision applies to persons in Tule Lake, persons in the Relocation Centers, and those already relocated. Providing they have been granted leave clearance by War Relocation Authority.
- R: Check.
- W: The Western Defense Command will proceed as soon as possible by whatever procedure it considers appropriate to make a revised decision as to whether or not these persons of Japanese ancestry will be continued in the individual exclusion group or shall be recommended for segregation at Tule Lake, or shall be restored their full liberty of movement.
- R: Check.
- W: That's ok.
- R: Yes, sir.
- W: The next one. It is understood that when lists are furnished to the Department of the Interior, or the Department of Justice, with a request for information as to whether they have been granted leave clearance or not, or in submitting a request for addresses. That such lists will not give any indication that the persons on that list have been placed on the list for inclusion in the group to be segregated or the group to be excluded.
- R: Yes, sir. That is one which you put in sir.
- W: No, you gave me that.
- R: No, sir. No, sir.
- W: You said they should not-----
- R: No, you have that wrong sir.
- W: Hold the line just a minute.

That any merchants who are on leave will be crated on request of olive's accept-in-special cases.

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- R: Yes, sir. But that's not what you just read sir. It is understood that the list which the War Department furnishes to the Department of the Interior, and to the Department of Justice, will be so framed as to avoid any specific indication that any Japanese who are on leave will be segregated on request of the War Department except in special cases.
- W: That, in other words ties the War Department so that it cannot let them know anything about it.
- R: That's right, yes sir, and that of course they maintain that is their decision here.
- W: In the War Department.
- R: Yes, sir, and you are perfectly in the clear general, I can tell you that they understand in no uncertain terms that you will put in your recommendations.
- W: Alright, but I think it's foolish-----
- R: I agree but.
- W: Alright nevermind. Now then to get the next one. It is proposed, subject to the approval of the President, that the Western Defense Command will issue its proclamation on December 15. The same will be effective at a later date depending upon how soon the Western Defense Command can complete the review indicated in the preceding paragraphs. There's been no change in that.
- R: Wait a moment now, I haven't-you missed one sir.
- W: One is out.
- R: It is understood that Western Defense Command-----
- W: Nevermind. You told me later that was out. You phoned me early this morning and said that the department-----
- R: Well, it's not exactly out-it's up in the air, yes sir.
- W: Alright, it's not in here at the present time in anything we're working with because it is up in the air.
- R: Yes, sir. Would you read that other one again sir, I've found the place, I meant. It's proposed----
- W: Well, it's just like the one you gave me before. I don't think there's any change, I'll read it though. It is proposed, subject to the approval of the President, that the Western Defense Command will issue its proclamation on December 15. The same will be effective at a later date depending upon how soon the Western Defense Command can complete the review indicated

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in the preceding paragraphs.

R: Yes, sir, but, however, that's about a week as what they figured on that sir. The effectiveness.

W: Well we don't know about that.

7. It is understood that the War Relocation Authority will indicate whether or not leave clearances have been granted on lists of individuals as quickly as the Western Defense Command gets the list to War Relocation Authority. The rate of accomplishment will not exceed one thousand per day.

R: Yes, sir.

W: Now you say that's changed to eight hundred.

R: Yes, he made that statement publicly yesterday, but his man tells me he can do it.

W: Alright, now then you asked a question. It is understood that when the Commanding General, Western Defense Command issues the proclamation on December 15, that steps will be taken to notify those individuals who are to have individual exclusion orders and who have not been granted leave clearance by War Relocation Authority. We agree with that, that's correct.

R: Yes, sir.

W: Now, if Mr. McGloy wishes to know when the proclamation can become effective, in view of the changes in the proposed program, it must be accomplished prior to the time that the proclamation becomes effective. General Pratt is going to phone Mr. McGloy in a few minutes and the question of the exact date will be taken up at that time. How long will it become necessary to keep Proclamation No. 8 in effect in view of the fact that the initial review job will be completed before the proclamation becomes effective. The minimum time will be fifteen days, after the effective date of the proclamation.

Another question. How does the Commanding General, Western Defense Command intend to get notice to individual persons recommended as segregates or designated as individual excludables who are now outside of Relocation Centers, including Tule Lake.

Answer: Notices will be sent to all such individuals, either directly by registered mail, or through Service Command agencies throughout the United States. All such individuals will be served only with an individual exclusion order. There will be nothing in the order, which he receives, which will state that he has ever been recommended for segregation at Tule Lake.

R: Yes, sir. Hold it a second my record is running out. Alright sir. Go ahead sir.

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W: Next one. Mr. Myer was given a list of about two thousand by Colonel Ryan yesterday, with a request that he supply the present addresses of these individuals.

Question: Mr. Myer wished to know what that list was?

Answer: That was a list of individuals who, subject to receipt of further information, will be placed on the individual excluder group. There might have been a few added to the list whose addresses only were desired, but the great bulk of the list is the type that I indicate.

Question: Mr. Myer wishes to know the list of, wishes to get the list of excluders.

Answer: The list previously referred to is part of the list of excluders. The remainder of the list will be dispatched to Mr. Myer by air express, probably leaving here today. It will be sent through you, Ryan in view of what you said a few moments ago.

R: Yes, sir.

W: Next. Mr. Myer wishes to know how the officers who are to make the review will function.

Answer: Very complete sets of instructions have been drawn up for the use of these officers. They must now be modified in view of the changes which have been made. Copies of the modified instructions will be forwarded, sometime later. We will send Mr. Myer a copy of the present instructions, which he must understand are to be modified, we will send him copies of those today. The point has come up frequently as to why the---wait a minute. and I know that you have already told them that when it's a question of using War Relocation Authority data, the Commanding General, Western Defense Command will be very glad to receive data and recommendations from WRA or any other source that is conversed with the present problem. It is recognized, that the records of WRA are an extremely valuable addition to the information already assembled, as you know of course we have asked for it a few months ago.

R: Yes, sir, and I have so told them.

W: It is believed, that it is apparent, that it was impossible to send Army officers to the various camps to talk to individuals and review records without causing considerable stir, without giving definite indication that some major change was in prospect. It is believed that the records now in the camps could have been loaned temporarily to the Western Defense Command and not causing any undue comment, however, that's all water under the bridge. Well I guess that's all I have so far Ryan. I've got to run off.

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